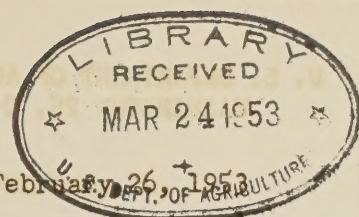


UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS  
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OVER FORTY PERCENT OF U.S. FARMS HAVE TELEPHONES

About 40.3 percent of the farms in the United States had telephones on July 1, 1952, according to data from an annual survey made by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. This is an increase of  $\frac{1}{2}$  of one percent over a year earlier and an increase of 2.1 percent above the 1950 Census figure. Although a greater percentage of American farms now have telephones than ever before, the number of farms with telephone service in 1952 was about 300,000 less than in 1920 when 2,498,500 farms or 38.7 percent of the farms had telephones.

The increase in the proportion of farms with telephones during the past few years (see table) has been fairly consistent throughout the United States. Since 1950, the West South Central States - Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, Texas - and States on the Pacific Coast have shown the greatest increases in the percentage of farms with telephones. During the 5-year period 1945 to 1950 the Western States and Middle Atlantic States - New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania - made the greatest advances. On July 1, 1952, nearly 75 percent of the farms in New England had telephones. This was the largest percentage recorded for any geographic region. States in other regions where more than 70 percent of the farms had telephones included Iowa, New Jersey, New York, and Kansas.

The estimates on percent of farms with telephones in 1951 and 1952 were based on reports received each year from over 20,000 farmers throughout the United States. The list of farmers to whom the questionnaire was sent was a cross section unbiased sample of all farms in the United States.

Percent of farms with Telephone Service, 1945 and 1947-52, by Regions

Regions	1945 Pct.	1947 Pct.	1948 Pct.	1949 Pct.	1950 Pct.	1951 Pct.	1952 Pct.
New England	63.1	67.8	68.8	70.9	72.9	73.5	74.3
Middle Atlantic	46.6	51.0	53.3	57.6	61.7	62.5	63.9
E. N. Central	51.1	53.8	55.0	57.6	60.2	60.8	62.1
W. N. Central	56.9	58.2	58.8	60.2	61.5	62.2	63.3
S. Atlantic	11.0	11.8	12.8	13.5	15.2	16.1	17.2
E. S. Central	10.4	11.0	11.4	12.2	13.5	14.2	15.7
W. S. Central	14.7	16.6	17.2	19.0	20.3	21.6	23.9
Mountain	32.6	37.4	39.0	41.3	44.2	44.7	46.4
Pacific	43.1	47.3	49.3	53.2	55.8	57.4	60.2
United States	31.8	33.7	34.6	36.4	38.2	38.8	40.3

<sup>1</sup>/Bureau of the Census.

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